

UNCLASSIFIED

NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
2000

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USIS
USIA FOR P/G; AR; USIS BONN FOR CAO;
SECSTATE FOR ARA/RONDON
E.O. 12356: N/A
SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR INFORMATION AND FAST GUIDANCE ON LOCALLY-
PUBLISHED STORY ALLEGING THAT THE U.S. USED WELL-KNOWN NAZI
WAR CRIMINALS TO FORM AN "ESPIONAGE NET" IN LATIN
AMERICA AFTER WW II
1. OCTOBER 3 EDITION OF QUITO DAILY "HOY" CARRIED A
STORY BASED ON AN IPS DISPATCH ALLEGING THAT AN
EX-NAZI SS MEMBER BY THE NAME OF ALFONSO SASSEN NOW
LIVING IN ECUADOR FLED GERMANY AFTER WW II, JOINED
THE U.S. "SECRET SERVICE," AND SUBSEQUENTLY CAME TO
ECUADOR IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN AN EFFORT TO
"BROADEN THE U.S. ESPIONAGE NET TO INCLUDE LATIN
AMERICA."
2. THE "HOY" STORY, WHICH STATES THAT THE SOURCE OF THE
IPS DISPATCH IS A REPORT PUBLISHED IN "STERN," MAKES
THE FOLLOWING ASSERTIONS:

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B
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A) SASSEN WAS CAPTURED BY U.S. FORCES IN GERMANY AT THE END OF THE WAR, WHEN BE ENTERED THE "U.S. SECRET SERVICE" AND WAS GIVEN A FALSE IDENTITY.

B) SUBSEQUENTLY, HE WENT TO SPAIN WHERE HE ENTERED INTO CONTACT WITH THE "SECRET SERVICE" OF THE FRANCO REGIME.

C) "IN SPAIN, IT WAS DECIDED TO BROADEN THE ESPIONAGE NET TO INCLUDE LATIN AMERICA ...-- ADDED (SASSEN) -- STILL AT THE SERVICE OF THE U.S. (SECRET SERVICE). LATIN AMERICA WAS PARCELLED OUT (AMONG VARIOUS AGENTS), AND SASSEN WAS ASSIGNED ECUADOR, **KLAUS BARBIE** (WAS ASSIGNED) BOLIVIA, WINN SASSEN (THE BROTHER OF ALFONSO) (WAS ASSIGNED) ARGENTINA, WALTER RAUFF CHILE, FREDERICH SWEND PERU AND JOSEPH MENGUELE PARAGUAY."

D) ALFONSO SASSEN IS NOW LIVING IN ECUADOR, WHERE HE REPRESENTS A COMPANY CALLED "EXPORT-IMPORT" WHICH IMPORTS ARMS FROM AUSTRIA, AND WHERE HE HAS ADVISED SUCCESSIVE ECUADOREAN GOVERNMENTS ON "INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL SECURITY."

E) "HOY" STORY QUOTES SASSEN AS SAYING THAT HE HOLDS THE HIGHEST ECUADOREAN MILITARY RANK THAT A FOREIGN IMMIGRANT TO ECUADOR CAN ATTAIN.

F) SASSEN'S SON ROBERTO IS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT THE SASSEN FAMILY HAS CLOSE RELATIONS WITH A LT. COL. FAUSTO BANDERAS OF THE ECUADOREAN ARMY.

3. FOR P/G: SINCE THIS STORY IS LIKELY TO CAUSE CONTROVERSY HERE, POST WOULD APPRECIATE AN ASSESSMENT OF THE ORIGIN AND VERACITY OF THE STERN STORY AND ANY POLICY GUIDANCE ON THE ACCUSATIONS THEREIN.

4. FOR USIS BONN: WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION YOU CAN PROVIDE ON "STERN" STORY.

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